14 January, 2016

TO: THE MAYOR AND EACH MEMBER OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

RE: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2020 – GUARANTEE OF PREPARATORY SUPPORT/ADMINISTRATION PAYMENTS TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Confirmation has been received from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government that the submission of the Limerick Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) in respect of the implementation of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (RDP) has been successful.

Implementation of the RDP in Limerick will be under the auspices of the LCDC as the Local Action Group, with Limerick City and County Council acting as the Financial Partner, and Ballyhoura Development Ltd and West Limerick Resources Ltd acting as Implementing Partners for their respective geographic areas.

A budget of €9.276 million has been allocated to the RDP for Limerick for the period 2014-2020 inclusive, 25% (€2.319 million) of which will be allocated for all preparatory support/administration of the Programme by the Implementing Partners, to be paid **in advance on a quarterly basis**. This budget will be used for staff costs, overheads and materials associated with the roll out of the programme. It is anticipated that the amount advanced to the Council for onward payment to the Implementing Partners will not exceed €120,000 per quarter.

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, in its role as the Managing Authority of the RDP, requires that Limerick City and County Council, in its role as the Financial Partner to the RDP in Limerick, provides a guarantee in respect of administration payments made under the programme to the Implementing Partners – Ballyhoura Development Ltd and West Limerick Resources Ltd, pursuant to the Local Government Act, 2001 (Sections 66(1) and (2)).

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Council approval is now requested for Limerick City and County Council to act as guarantor in respect of the administration budget of the RDP.

Is mise, le meas,

PAT DOWLING
DIRECTOR OF SERVICE